



# Human Services Grants and Re-entry

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# Grants and Background



- **Four grants encompassing \$6.3 Million in funding:**
  - Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG): Funds shelter operations and street outreach as well as homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities.
  - Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) provides support services, housing and operations funds for HIV/AIDS providers.
  - Continuum of Care (CoC) Supportive Housing provides for support services only programs and rental subsidy for transitional and permanent supportive housing programs. Leases are held either in the agency name or directly with the client.
  - CoC Shelter Plus Care provides rental subsidy only that is tenant based, project based or sponsor based (where the funds reside). Leases are held either in the agency name or directly with the client.
- **ESG and HOPWA are “formulary” grants that the City receives based on a number of factors and is a percentage of the Community Development Block Grant award from Housing and Urban Development (HUD).**
- **The Continuum of Care grant is an annual competition that the City must re-apply for each year.**

# Challenges



- These grants are for those who are categorized as “at risk” and for those who are de facto homeless (place not for human habitation, shelter or transitional housing residents). Literally the status the night before someone seeks help determines if they are homeless or not and those who are staying with relatives, in hotels or with friends “doubled up” are not considered homeless by HUD.
- HUD considers it the responsibility of the Department of Corrections to identify housing and they are considered “housed” while incarcerated. The person must have been homeless in the 30 days prior to being incarcerated and be incarcerated less than 90 days to maintain their homeless “status”.
- As a practical matter, the justice system often has no choice but to release people to homeless shelters or to house them in hotels temporarily. This often leads to the person being homeless because they have no identified resources or support network.
- This can lead to activities which result in new charges like public intoxication, theft, alcohol and drug use or sale etc. It can ALSO lead to persons developing or worsening of life threatening medical or mental health status, victimization and violence or other types of situations relative to being or becoming homeless.

# How these grants HELP with re-entry



- **The ESG grant is the primary grant that would be able to help those who are at risk of homelessness and have no other resources identified prior to release.**
- **This grant allows for**
  - Provision of housing case management
  - Links to other services like medical, mental health and substance use help/prevention
  - Education, credit clean up, resources to employment
  - Assistance with legal matters (EXCLUDING resident status and mortgage related) to include any matter that is a barrier to the person remaining housed
  - Deposit assistance both for rent and utilities to include a one time six month arrearage
  - Up to 24 months assistance in a 36 month period
- **HOPWA allows agencies to work with clients who are already HIV+ but the person does NOT have to be homeless to receive help. This help can be accessed through any Care Coordination or HIV/AIDS Service provider in Marion or the (9) contiguous counties because of the agreements and partnerships with the HOPWA Roundtable created in 2011 and facilitated by the City.**

# Grants and Re-Entry (contd).



- **The CoC Grants (SHP and SPC) are a little more difficult to work with because not only does the person have to be homeless but they must have a HUD defined disability**
  - Chronic Substance Use
  - Serious Mental Illness
  - HIV/AIDS
  - A physical or cognitive disorder
  - Co-Occuring
- **Overcoming these barriers can be done with assistance from professional outreach, case management and housing staff.**
- **There is a currently a broad movement underway to foster more collaboration and to lower barriers to those who need shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing as well as those at risk for homelessness.**



# DMD Initiatives



- **Working more closely with our internal governmental partners to align what we do with what they do to enhance the client based services. We know that there will be people who always need permanent help. For the vast majority, they can become self sufficient within some period of time.**
- **ALL prevention programming is homeless prevention: HIV prevention programming, Public Safety crime prevention and criminal justice planning both at the community and client levels**
- **In late 2012 a major effort to reach more government partners resulted in our being able to serve:**

Department of Public Safety

IMPD's Public Information Office

Homeless Probation and Parole Team

Community Corrections

Indiana Department of Corrections

Indiana State Department of Health

Mayor's Veteran Services Officer

Mayor's Office of Re-Entry

Department of Children and Family Services

These are agencies we have purposefully reached out to and with whom there is contact regarding specific cases with clients where we can and have provided help.



# Case Study: HOPWA and Prevention

- The HOPWA Roundtable was created and is facilitated by the City of Indianapolis
- As part of this partnership, we have high two high risk HIV negative programs for special populations to include Sex Workers, IV drug users and persons coming out of prison or jail specifically. They cannot be HIV Positive and the programming is in line with the Federal HIV/AIDS Policy issued by the United States Office Of HIV/AIDS Housing.
- Our partner Step Up that provides pre- and post-release case management in which the client is interviewed with motivational coaching techniques and self-identifies what their goals are. Always among the top five are housing and employment. This program is funded through the Damien Center and uses ESG funds.
- Developed as a specific program for those who are interested in culinary arts, an intensive interview process results in job training and placement through a partnership with Second Helpings. Acceptance into this program requires case management attendance and completion of the curriculum (10 weeks) but also includes rent subsidy for the duration of the class and up to 3 months more subsidy to allow the person to stabilize once they have been employed. This program is replicable and there is no greater cost because the resources are already in place and being funded.

# Currently



- Last year we identified re-entry and re-incarceration with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) that there were 49 persons who came from jail or prison and were self identified as homeless who accessed services. Most of the HMIS participants receive funding from one of the four grants. This does NOT include data from the largest shelter in the City because they do not participate in the HMIS. It also does not include those who did not exit directly from or to prison/Jail. They are counted elsewhere (streets, doubled up etc).
- During this same quarter, 43 of our clients who accessed some type of service or housing EXITED to jail or prison. Meaning, they were re-arrested, re-charged and are either in prison or jail.
- The HMIS collects aggregated data and individual agency data on clients. For reasons of privacy to the client, we cannot say at the client level if these 43 are included in the 49 who came from jail and went back or if they are 43 NEW offenses.

Last Quarter (October 2012-December 2012)		HOMELESS POPULATIONS ONLY REPORTING					
Housing Type	Total Enrolled (Includes Children)	Total Leavers	Total Stayers	% of Leavers	Entered From Jail/Prison	Exited To Jail/Prison	Percentage of Leavers
Emergency Shelter	686	483	203	70.41%	2	0	0.00%
Transitional Housing	480	88	392	18.33%	6	1	1.14%
SHP-Supportive Housing	30	5	25	16.67%	0	0	0.00%
Shelter Plus Care	743	23	720	3.10%	4	1	4.35%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1939</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>1340</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.33%</b>